GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7275
ANSWERED ON:14.05.2002
EASY TO LEARN SANSKRIT PROGRAMME
M. CHINNASAMY

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set any target to achieve the goal to Easy to Learn Sanskrit Programme as reported in the meeting of Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan held recently ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken by the Government in this regard ;

(c) whether the Government propose to take the help of computerisation, IT wave, DD, AIR to spread Sanskrit ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) & (b) At the meeting of the Shasi Parishad of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan on 27-3-2002, the need to popularize Sanskrit through easy, accessible and modern methods was emphasized. Apart from formal teaching in several schools, colleges and other institutions, it is proposed to launch different schemes to achieve the objective, including production of easy-to-learn reading material, digital material, use of Internet, opening of Non-Formal Sanskrit Education Centers, etc.

(c) to (e) Yes Sir. The following measures have already been taken to popularize Sanskrit through information technology.

1. Government has sanctioned grants for the establishment of computer centers and the development of infrastructure to several Sanskrit universities, institutions and research establishments.

2. Sanskrit has been found to be a language which is particularly compatible with computers. Specific projects linking the two have been carried out at the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, Indian Institute of Information and Technology, Hyderabad, Centre for Development of Advanced Computing, Bangalore, Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapith, Tirupati etc.

3. Further, the SANSKNET project of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapith, Tirupati, will make available on the Internet basic material for the study of Sanskrit. Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan has also devised graduation and secondary - school level programmes on the computer for all its 8 Sanskrit Vidyapeethas located in different parts of the country.

4. The Sanskrit and Science exhibition of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapith, Tirupati has proved to be very popular. It effectively links the language with several scientific disciplines like Physics, Botany, Chemistry, Mathematics, etc.

5. Central Board of Secondary Education has introduced Communicative Sanskrit Language teaching in the schools affiliated to it across the country. In addition it has prepared Teachers' book and guidelines and has conducted approximately 30 training programmes and has trained over 2000 teachers.

6. Sanskrit educational programmes for television and radio as well as for the Indira Gandhi National Open University are also being planned.

7. University Grants Commission also has special assistance programme for conducting Saral Sanskrit Teaching Courses for promotion of Sanskrit. Under the scheme so far 500 centers have been opened.

8. Besides this, several State Governments and Union Territory Governments such as Delhi have under taken programmes for

popularizing Sanskrit Language. Delhi Sanskrit Academy, Delhi conducts various competitions in Shloka Path, Nibandh Lekhan and Udyaman Kavis etc. Some of the State Governments, like Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh have set up Sanskrit Academy/Parishad for popularizing Sanskrit.